

Pastor's Corner



My Brothers and Sisters:

I saw a headline a few days ago that went, "Self-isolation is solidarity." I laughed. Now this was coming from a secular, somewhat political source, so it sounded a little bit like Orwellian "newspeak." But from our spiritual background, we know this is a profound paradox. At this time, our inability to receive the Eucharist and the limited access we have to Confession remind us of those who regularly are bereft of these. There are the sick at home, those whose living situations leave them unprepared, those with few priests available such as the regions of the Amazon, and those who are imprisoned and persecuted across the globe. At this time we can take our experiences of separation from the sacraments and from praying in each other's presence. And use them to share Christ's cross with those throughout the world and in our midst who regularly are without these means of grace.

In cooperation with the Governor's most recent directives, we will not have Parish Office Hours during these times. The staff will be working from home as much as possible. We are keeping in touch through the website, email, and Facebook. We are preparing other ways to get information out to you. Please check out the website and follow me on twitter [@FrTomS](#). Holy Water and bulletins are available on the front porch of the Office.

Many of you are asking if I can live-stream Mass. I am at least another week away from this. In the meantime, please check out, at [archindy.org](#), the links to many other Masses that are available online, as well as on TV stations. I am still saying Mass according to our parish schedule, it is simple not public at this time. During these Masses, you are in my heart and prayers.

This weekend is the 5th weekend of the month, when we have a second collection for Saint Vincent de Paul. At a time like this more people will be asking us for emergency help and going to food banks. Please remember to donate to St. Vincent de Paul if you can.

And thank you for remembering us, as you have been bringing your collection to the Office, mailing checks, using electronic giving through **Faith Direct**, and other gifts. Contact Susie Navarro if you would like to give through other means, such as by credit card.

Because of your generosity during these lean times, we are able to continue to pay our bills and support our employees.

I had a few enquiries this past week asking what is a Parochial Vicar. It regards something parishioners have seen in the Criterion that Fr. Binu Matthew will be our Parochial Vicar. Fr. Matthew is a priest coming to work in the Archdiocese. He is expected to arrive in a month or two (I have no idea what the recent changes in travel will allow). Fr. Matthew will have an assignment this coming July. But we will provide an immediate assignment and home for him until July.

Parochial Vicar is the term used in canon law for what we normally call an associate pastor; in former times, a Curate or an assistant pastor. Father Martin was my parochial vicar. The Korean priest who takes care of the chapel down the road is officially my parochial vicar. Fr. Matthew will be with us just a short time. During that time we will be getting him acclimated to Indianapolis. He will have some personal things to work on while at Saint Lawrence, such as learning how to drive. I am told I don't have to give him lessons.



I planned on taking a vacation this coming week, during school Spring Break. I have not made any travel plans though. But whether I am near or far, I will be saying Mass.

Here are a couple prayers for this week:

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

Heavenly Father, Bless us with a sense of unity
in our 3-year Capital Campaign.
May our Church Family be generous as we work
for the future of our Church and School.
Please keep us rooted in your word and work.
You have helped us in the past with our necessary
resources, again we need your help and
blessings.
We thank you for this in the precious name of
Jesus, Our Lord.
Amen

NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. LAWRENCE

O St. Lawrence, who in your youth suffered and died
for the faith, hear our prayers. With confidence we fly
to your aid. Obtain for us deep faith, strong hope, a
sincere love of God and neighbor, pure chastity and
humble obedience.

Inspire us to come to the aid of the poor, the needy,
the sick and the afflicted. Lead us on the path of
conversion. May God's Kingdom spread far and wide
on earth. Help us in all our needs especially (Insert
your special intention here)

Finally, grant that we live as worthy people of God, die
a holy death and join you eternally in heaven. Amen.

In Christ Our Lord,

Fa. Tom